

University of Michigan Law School

University of Michigan Law School Scholarship Repository

UMLS Alumni Survey Class Reports

University of Michigan Law School Alumni
Survey Project

Alumni Survey Cumulative Report, 1952-1959

University of Michigan Law School

Follow this and additional works at: https://repository.law.umich.edu/alumni_survey_reports



Part of the [Legal Education Commons](#), and the [Legal Profession Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

University of Michigan Law School, "Alumni Survey Cumulative Report, 1952-1959" (1974).

This Report is brought to you for free and open access by the University of Michigan Law School Alumni Survey Project at University of Michigan Law School Scholarship Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in UMLS Alumni Survey Class Reports by an authorized administrator of University of Michigan Law School Scholarship Repository. For more information, please contact mlaw.repository@umich.edu.

ALUMNI SURVEY CUMULATIVE REPORT
1952-1959

I. INTRODUCTION

For nine consecutive years the University of Michigan Law School has conducted a survey of its graduates as they reached their fifteenth year after graduation. The nine classes to date, those of 1951 through 1959, include a total of 2,236 graduates. Of these, 1,746 (78%) returned questionnaires with the rate of response varying for individual classes from a high of 81% for the Class of 1951 and 80% returns for the Classes of 1955 and 1956 to a low of 73% for the Class of 1957.

The questionnaire was redesigned somewhat after the survey of the Class of 1951, but has remained practically constant for each succeeding class. The composite report which follows is concerned with Classes '52 through '59 (1,949 graduates) as a report of the '51 survey was published previously and as some information obtained through the current questionnaire is lacking for the Class of 1951. Of these 1,949 graduates, 1,517 returned questionnaires.

II. FRESHMEN, 1949 through 1956

Residence: While all classes surveyed were widely diversified as to state of origin, understandably the majority in each instance was from Michigan. Five of the classes included students from a foreign country.

Academic Background: Most members of each class took their undergraduate work at the University of Michigan, but many other undergraduate schools were listed. The highest number of different schools was 101 in the Class of '58 and the lowest was 65 in the Class of '55. Classes '52 through '55 also listed at least one foreign university as the undergraduate school. Entrance requirements for Classes '52 through '55 allowed three alternatives (1) graduation from approved colleges; (2) admission pursuant to an approved integrated or combined curriculum; (3) the status as a veteran of World War II who had entered service prior to August 31, 1945, had at least one year of active duty exclusive of college training programs, and had completed at least 3 years of college level work. At the time the members of Classes '56 through '59 entered as freshmen the veterans' alternative was no longer in force. In each of the 8 classes the majority of the freshmen entered with a baccalaureate degree. Six hundred and seventy (43%) of the respondents had received some form of undergraduate honors, such as membership in honorary fraternities and societies, scholarships, prizes, and degrees awarded with distinction.

Age: The age range of the students (1,949 graduates) at entrance was 19 through 42 with the average age 23. Seven hundred and fifty-six (39%) of the 1,949 had had some experience with the Armed Services before entering law school. Four hundred and nineteen of the 1,517 respondents have spent at least six months in the Armed Services since graduation.

Education of Parents: The following table indicates the educational level of the parents of the 1,517 who returned questionnaires.

Table I
Educational Attainments of Father and Mother

F
A
T
H
E
R

		MOTHER						TOTAL
		O	A	B	C	D	E	
O		5				3	1	11
A			243	6	122	33	14	418
B			10	4	7	3		24
C			36	3	129	32	23	224
D			26	3	78	61	48	222
E			11	3	66	73	104	266
F			7	1	63	102	138	350
TO-TAL		5	333	20	465	307	328	1,515*

*2 no answer

Key: O - Didn't know D - 1 year or more of college, but no degree
 A - Less than high school E - 4 years of college with degree
 B - Trade School F - More than one college degree
 C - High School diploma

Two hundred and ninety-seven parents and 114 grandparents were lawyers or had had some legal training.

Extracurricular Activities: Judging from the returned questionnaires, many had taken part in extracurricular activities prior to entering law school. However, participation in the more highly organized activities such as varsity athletics, school publications and dramatics fell off markedly after high school. The emphasis in college was directed toward social and service organizations and school or community politics.

III. THE LAW SCHOOL YEARS

Marital Status and Children: Three hundred and twenty-three (22%) of the respondents were married when they began studying law. Three hundred and seventy-two (24%) more married sometime during the law school years. Seven hundred and twenty-seven have married since graduation, the majority within the first five years after graduation. At the time of graduation the respondents had a total of 489 children.

Financial Support: The principal source of income and support during the law school years for most respondents was from parents or other members of the immediate family, spouse included. Other important sources were earnings during law school years, including summer earnings, G.I. Bill or other benefits, and savings from pre-law school earnings.

Table II indicates how many of the respondents were employed in each academic year while in law school.

Table II
Number of Respondents Distributed by Year of Law School and
by Average Number of Hours Worked Per Week During School Terms

	Law School Year		
	First	Second	Third
H O U R S			
P E R			
W E E K			
None	915	672	657
Less than 10	161	191	173
10 - 15	179	273	265
16 - 20	111	183	185
More than 20	120	161	190
No answer	31	37	47
Total	1,517	1,517	1,517

In response to the question, "What percentage of your work while in law school, including summer employment, would you consider 'law related?'" 939 said none; 213 said 25% or less; 101, 26% to 51%; 57, 51% to 75%; and 116 answered 75% or more.

Grades: The Law School Admissions Test scores for Classes '52 through '59 (all graduates, not just respondents) varied from 535 to 552 for the mean and from 536 to 553 for the median. In all eight classes this was better than 70% of all scores by all persons then taking the test.

At the end of 3 years, most students had maintained a law school grade point average between 2.0 and 3.0. Below is a listing of class grade point averages (1,949 graduates) for comparison.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Mean</u>	<u>Median</u>
'52	2.55	2.40
'53	2.50	2.45
'54	2.53	2.44+
'55	2.51	2.47
'56	2.69	2.48
'57	2.49	2.45
'58	2.54	2.45
'59	2.56	2.49

The correlation between the LSAT score and grade point average is shown in Table III.

Table III
Correlation Between LSAT and Grade-Point Average
(1,949 graduates)

		Three-Year Cumulative Grade-Point Average							
		3.9-3.0		2.9-2.0		1.9-1.0		Total	
L S A T	700-799	15	60%	10	40%	0		25	100%
	600-699	133	35%	241	63%	10	2%	384	100%
	500-599	139	15%	705	76%	81	9%	925	100%
	400-499	23	5%	415	82%	66	13%	504	100%
	300-399	1	2%	30	65%	15	33%	46	100%
	200-299	1	33%	2	67%	0		3	100%
	Total	312	17%	1,403	74%	172	9%	1,887*	100%

*62 had no LSAT

IV. THE FIRST FIFTEEN YEARS FOLLOWING GRADUATION

Residence: At the time the members of each of the 8 classes returned their questionnaires their location (state) was compared with what was considered home state at the time of admission.

Table IV

State	At Time of Admission	After Fifteen Years	Net Change
Alabama	3	4	+1
Alaska	1	1	0
Arizona	3	13	+10
Arkansas	3	1	-2
California	9	114	+105
Colorado	5	20	+15
Connecticut	14	17	+3
Delaware	4	8	+4
Florida	7	27	+20
Georgia	3	2	-1
Hawaii	18	16	-2
Idaho	2	0	-2
Illinois	134	121	-13
Indiana	48	46	-2
Iowa	24	12	-12
Kansas	15	6	-9
Kentucky	9	11	+2
Louisiana	1	2	+1
Maine	1	2	+1
Maryland	3	5	+2
Massachusetts	13	8	-5
Michigan	658	512	-146
Minnesota	12	16	+4
Missouri	32	26	-6
Montana	4	4	0
Nebraska	15	7	-8
New Hampshire	8	7	-1
New Jersey	28	23	-5
New Mexico	0	6	+6

Table IV cont'd

State	At Time of Admission	After Fifteen Years	Net Change
New York	93	117	+24
Nevada	1	0	-1
North Carolina	1	1	0
North Dakota	8	2	-6
Ohio	162	138	-24
Oklahoma	6	4	-2
Oregon	6	10	+4
Pennsylvania	82	62	-20
Rhode Island	3	4	+1
South Carolina	2	1	-1
South Dakota	5	1	-4
Tennessee	3	5	+2
Texas	5	13	+8
Utah	3	2	-1
Vermont	1	2	+1
Virginia	3	4	+1
Washington	2	13	+11
West Virginia	7	2	-5
Wisconsin	31	14	-17
Wyoming	1	0	-1
District of Columbia	7	61	+54
Puerto Rico	1	2	+1
Foreign Countries	5		

Serving in foreign countries		20	
2 no answer			

Those listed in the column "After Fifteen Years" are listed by the state in which they had an office at the time of the questionnaire. Occasionally the office and residence were in different states.

Nine hundred and five respondents were located in what was considered their home state during attendance in law school; 526 in what was considered their home town prior to law school; 629 were located in either the city or state in which they took their undergraduate training.

Size of Communities: Table V organizes the respondents in terms of the size of the communities in which they were working at the time; it also compares figures for all lawyers throughout the country.

Table V

Size of Community	Classes '52 thru '59 Number	Percent	All Lawyers in U.S.* Number		Percent
Under 25M	178	12% 29.1%	132,868		37%
25M to 100M	259	17.1%			
100M to 200M	150	10%	100M to 250M	39,162	11%
200M to 500M	145 ^{48#}	3.1% 22.7% 9.6%	250 to 500M	41,075	12%
500M to 1M	245	16.1% 48.2%	142,137		40%
Over 1M	486	32.1%			
Total	1,511**	100%	355,242		100%

*The 1971 Lawyer Statistical Report, American Bar Foundation, 1972

#Class of '52 where division was 100,000 to 500,000

** 6 did not answer. Percent based on 1,511.

Table VI shows the correlation between the sizes of "home towns" and location at time of returned questionnaires.

Table VI

Size of City of Present Location	Size of City of Origin						Total
	Under 25M	25M to 100M	100M to 200M	200M to 500M	500M to 1M	Over 1M	
Under 25M	114	34	12	7* 14	12	34	227
25M to 100M	65	103	14	2* 8	13	51	256
100M to 200M	43	21	37	8	7	29	145
200M to 500M	35	18	10	57	3	14	137
500M to 1M	64	34	9	12* 23	54	38	234
Over 1M	109	76	22	4* 19	22	212	464
Total	440	292	104	48* 129	112	386	1,511**

* Class of '52 where division was 100,000 to 500,000

** 6 no answer

Table VII shows the correlation between size of community where respondent was located at the time of the questionnaire and his occupation.

Table VII
Correlation Between Size of City of Location and Occupation

Size of City Where Working	Occupation						Total
	A	B	C	D	E	F	
Under 25M	130	19	3	10		14	176
25M to 100M	174	40	10	4		30	258
100M to 200M	97	30	5	5		14	151
200M to 500M	29*	13*	1*	2*		2*	47*
	94	29	4	1		16	144
500M to 1M	150	53	7	4	1	30	245
Over 1M	284	128	5	4		61	482
Total	958	312#	35	30	1	167#	1,503**

*Class of '52

**12 no answer as to occupation

#1 each in B & F did not indicate size of city

Key: A - Lawyers in private practice or in a law firm
 B - Lawyers, salaried other than law firms (excluding judges, teachers and legislators)
 C - Educators
 D - Judges
 E - Legislators
 F - Non-lawyers

As can be seen from the above table 958 (64%) of 1,503 respondents were lawyers in private practice or in a law firm, 21% were salaried lawyers in other than law firms, 2% were educators, 1.9% were judges, and 11% were non-lawyers. Only 1 graduate out of the 1,503 checked "legislator."

Further information about members in these categories was obtained. Of the 313 lawyers in Category B, 87 were employed by federal, state, or local government; 211 were employed by organizations for profit; 15 checked "other." Twenty of the 35 in Category C were connected with law schools either as professors or administrators. Of the remaining 15 in this category, 11 were teaching on a college level, 1 was a college administrator, 2 were teaching on a pre-college level, and 1 was an administrator on a pre-college level. Of the 30 in Category D, 25 were in state or local courts and the remaining 5 were in federal courts. Among the 168 non-lawyers, Category F, 28 were sole or co-proprietors; 76 were employers in supervisory positions; 8 were in non-supervisory positions; 19 were employed by government (other than judges, legislators, or educators); and 37 checked "other."

The questionnaire also requested information as to the kind of work performed by those in Categories B and F (see above). Of the salaried employees

(either lawyer or non-lawyer, working in an organization other than a law firm and excluding judges, teachers and legislators) 259 were legal staff in corporate or governmental organizations. The remainder had diverse occupations including executive positions, industrial relations or personnel, international trade, accounting, labor arbitration, tax specialists, insurance, investments, various non-law government positions, foreign service, publishing, trusts and estates, administration and planning, management consultants, real estate, research, public relations, environmental law, industrial financing, contracts specialists, clergyman, and opera singer. Two hundred and sixty-two supervised from 1 to 10 employees, 81 supervised 11-50, and 66 supervised over 51.

Combining Categories A and B (i.e., all those working as lawyers whether employed or in private practice, a total of 1,271), the questionnaire asked for the number of other lawyers in the respondent's office or department. Table VIII gives the results.

Table VIII
Respondents Distributed According to Number of
Other Lawyers in Office or Department

Other Lawyers	0	1-3	4-7	8-15	16-30	31-50	Over 51	No Ans.
Respondents	107	305	237	181	115	69	125	132

According to The 1971 Lawyer Statistical Report, American Bar Foundation, 1972; a 1968 publication entitled WHERE published by Lawyer Placement Information Services, ABA; as well as a 1966 report by the ABA Committee on Economics of Law Practice, the number of individual practitioners has been steadily decreasing since 1948, while the number of partnerships and professional corporations has been increasing. The respondents from the 8 classes reflect this trend.

Partnerships & Professional Corporations

<u>Class</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent of Those in Private Practice</u>
'52	97	68%
'53	90	69%
'54	84	75%
'55	73	78%
'56	86	82%
'57	88	73%
'58	96	78%
'59	104	79%

A demographic survey of its readers conducted by the ABA Journal and reported in the December, 1970, Volume 56 issue, indicated that 19.8% of those replying were sole practitioners and 52.9% of those replying were partners or associates in a firm. This percentage was based on 552 replies.

Table IX
Lawyers in Private Practice

Classes '52 thru '59				
	Number	% of Those In Private Practice	% of All Respond- ents	% of All Lawyers in Practice ('71)*
Sole practitioner	124	13%	8%	36.6%
Sole practitioner in non-partnership	88	9%	6%	
Member of a partner- ship or corporation	718	75%	46%	28.5%
Employee of a part- nership or corp.	25	3%	2%	(Associate) 7.6%
(respondents not in private practice)	(559)		(37%)	
No answer	3		1%	
Total	1,517	100% **	100%	

*The 1971 Lawyer Statistical Report, American Bar Foundation, 1972 **Based on 955

At the time the questionnaires had been returned, 351 (35%) of the private practitioners, a total of 958, had been in private practice for approximately 15 years, or ever since graduation. Four hundred and ninety-two (52%) more had been in private practice for 10 through 14 years. Five hundred and eight of those in partnerships started in established firms; 181 started with another lawyer then in solo practice and formed a firm; and 71 started by themselves and have added others. Five hundred and eight of the 718 respondents who were members of a law partnership or corporation reported that their firm had a written agreement.

The ABA Economic Facts About Law Practice, 1966, mentioned earlier states that the average lawyer is compensated for only $5\frac{1}{2}$ hours of an eight-hour day. It also states that about one-third of a lawyer's professional time is devoted to unpaid legal work, education, office management and public service. The questionnaire asked that the respondent indicate the approximate division of his time (av. hrs. per week) during the most recent 12 months among the following categories: chargeable time for clients, non-chargeable time for clients, and career-oriented work. While not all the 958 practicing lawyers answered this, the responses would indicate they accumulate more chargeable hours than the $5\frac{1}{2}$ given in the ABA report. Table X indicates the way the respondents who are practicing lawyers divided their time for a 12-month period.

Table X
Division of Time for Practicing Lawyers in the
Classes of '52 thru '59

Chargeable time	Average Hours Per Week						No Ans.
	Under 10	11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	Over 50	
	23	(2%)	211 (22%)	403 (42%)	170 (18%)	125 (13%)	26 (3%)
Non-charge- able time	624 (65%)	195 (20%)	14 (2%)	13 (1%)			112 (12%)
Career-ori- ented Work	635 (66%)	183 (19%)	14 (2%)	13 (1%)			113 (12%)

The hours spent by each respondent in all 3 categories were totaled with the following results. Three hundred and sixty-seven (38%) of the practicing lawyers spend 40 to 50 hours per week in professional effort of one kind or another; 228 (24%) spend about 55 hours; 199 (21%) spend over sixty hours; 138 (14%) spend up through 35 hours per week. The remaining 3% did not answer the question.

Specialties: Those graduates working as lawyers whether in practice, for government, or for a corporation, were asked to indicate their specialty, or specialties, if they had any. "Specialty" was defined as an area of law in which one spends more than 25% of his working time. Respondents were asked to limit themselves to 3 responses.

Table XI

<u>Subject Area</u>	<u>Number of Specialists</u>
Corporation & Business Counseling-----	358
Real Property-----	197
Trust & Probate-----	194
Trial, General-----	184
No area accounts for 25% of time-----	138
Trial, Negligence-----	128
Taxation-----	128
Negligence-----	102
Banking & Commercial Law-----	86
Securities Issuance & Regulation-----	76
Domestic Relations-----	76
Other-----	75
Criminal Law-----	65
Antitrust-----	63
Administrative Law-----	56
Insurance-----	55
Municipal-----	51
Labor Law-----	49
Patent, Trademark & Copyright-----	46
Workmen's Compensation-----	37
Bankruptcy - Collections-----	35
Legislation-----	29
International Law-----	27
Public Utility Regulation-----	18
Government Contracts-----	17

Table XI cont'd

<u>Subject Area</u>	<u>Number of Specialists</u>
Employee Benefits-----	16
Admiralty-----	15
Oil, Gas & Mineral-----	14
Aviation-----	5

The respondents were also asked to check membership certificates, some of which suggest specialized practice.

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Number of Respondents</u>
Local Bar Association	1,214
State Bar Association	1,280
Federal Bar Association	176
American Bar Association	955
Patent Bar	37
American Trial Lawyers' Association	150
*American College of Trial Lawyers	0
*International Association of Insurance Counsel	12
CPA	30
CLU	7
Real Estate License	31
Other	111

*Not in '52 questionnaire

One thousand and eighteen of the 1,517 respondents are admitted to practice before one state court, 363 in two states, and 81 in three or more.

Career Objective: The questionnaire for Classes '53 through '59 asked about career objectives. Of these 1,291 respondents, 604 entered law school with a particular career objective in mind. Eight hundred and two had a career objective at graduation time. Six hundred and sixty-four of the 802 have achieved their objective and seem to feel it was a sound choice.

Stability: Of the 1,517 respondents in Classes '52 through '59, 878 (58%) have held positions with no more than 2 firms or organizations, while 377 (25%) more have been with no more than 3. At the time the questionnaires were returned 679 had been with their organization for more than 10 years; 86 for 10 years; 56 for 9 years; 70 for 8; 58 for 7; 68 for 6; 83 for 5; 73 for 4; 60 for 3; 85 for 2; and 109 for 1 year. Ninety did not answer this. Four hundred and nineteen have had their careers interrupted by military service; 44 by travel and study abroad; and 101 have done post-graduate work in law, business, accounting or other fields, full time, for periods of six months or more.

Seven hundred and sixty-two (80%) of the 958 practitioners in these 8 classes have been in practice for 12 years or more. Four hundred and fifteen of these have been with the same firm for the same length of time. Only 74 have been with more than 3 firms since leaving law school. Two hundred and eleven are in practice by themselves, either as sole practitioner or sole practitioner in non-partnership association with other lawyers. Seven hundred and eighteen are members of a partnership or professional corporation.

Both lawyers and non-lawyers were asked to indicate in chronological order the kinds of positions they have held since graduation. There was an opportunity to indicate 6. Not counting military service (except for career officers) the first position held by 777 was as an employee of a law firm. One hundred and forty-one were employed by corporations. One hundred and nineteen started practicing by themselves. One hundred and fifteen accepted positions with federal, state, county or city government (excluding judicial clerkships). Seventy were hired as corporate employees (non-law). Forty-eight became partners in law firms. Thirty-four accepted judicial clerkships. Eight either continued or began a military career. Five started their own business (non-law). The remainder took positions such as public relations, teacher, labor arbitrator, graduate study, insurance, research, salesman, newspaper reporter, CPA firms, trust companies, real estate, legal aid societies, banking, foreign service, FBI, law librarian, patent office, engineering, non-judicial clerkships, court employee, publishing, advertising, and law professor.

One hundred and seventy-eight respondents have held one kind of position since graduation; 574 have held 2 kinds; 437, 3; 171, 4; 106, 5; and 43 have held 6 or more.

Income: Members were asked to indicate their average income (before taxes and excluding income from investments) during four separate periods since graduation; the first three years; the second three years; the next four years; and the most recent four years. Due to the ever increasing rate of inflation a comparison of incomes of the 8 classes would be quite unrealistic, but it is quite safe to say that Michigan graduates make a very comfortable living. In the demographic study entitled, "In Search of the Average Lawyer," 1970 which was referred to on page 8 of this report, the average annual income reported by respondents was \$27,960, the median was \$21,260. Whether one accepts the average or the median figure, Michigan graduates tend to be way above these figures. In all 8 classes members of partnerships or corporations seem to fair better as to income than do either sole practitioners or sole practitioners in non-partnership association; and practitioners, each year, had considerably higher incomes than those in the other categories.

At the start of the surveys (1966, the Class of '51) a respondent reporting an income of \$25,000 or over was considered a high earner, but as the surveys progressed the number of high earners increased each year to the point that by the survey of the Class of '55 the high earners were beginning to be in the majority. Obviously inflation was largely to blame. In an effort to strike a better balance the scale of income on the 1959 questionnaire was raised, and \$40,000 and over has become the indicator of a high earner. This should be borne in mind when reading the following analysis of "high earners." It undoubtedly limits the value of this analysis.

Each year of the surveys a comparison of the "high earners" with the remaining members was made in an effort to learn whether factors which employers regard as important actually bear any relationship to financial success. It was found that in 5 out of the 8 classes the average LSAT score for high earners was slightly lower than the remaining, but there was so little difference in each class that it would be difficult to draw any conclusions as to the LSAT's importance - either academically or financially. The average grade-point of the high earners for the three years in law school was slightly higher than for the remaining (however, never more than 2 tenths of a point higher).

Fifty-two percent of the total number of high earners for the 8 classes were married when they entered law school or married at some time during the 3 years in school compared with 41% of the remaining. The principal source of financial support listed by high earners was almost identical with that of the remaining members in all 8 classes. The order of importance was almost exactly the same with parental or family first, and earnings during law school years including summer earnings second, with G.I. or other veterans' benefits third. The percent of high earners who were employed while attending law school was greater than that of the remaining respondents for all 3 law school years. Forty-six percent of the high earners had received undergraduate scholastic honors of some sort compared with 40% of the remainder.

Michigan graduates regardless of income tend to work in cities of 200,000 or more (over 50% in each of the 8 classes). However, the majority of those returning questionnaires were raised in communities of under 200,000, and this is also true for those classed as high earners as well as the remainder.

Table XII
Comparison of Population of City Where Respondents Were
Raised and That in Which They were Working

Population of City	785* High Earners				731* Others			
	Raised In No.	%	Work In No.	%	Raised In No.	%	Work In No.	%
Under 25M	245	35%	67	9%	244	35%	111	16%
25M to 100M	156	20%	116	15%	134	19.3%	143	21%
100M to 200M	56	7%	86	11%	43	6.2%	64	9%
200M to 500M	73	10%	77	10%	50	7.2%	68	10%
500M to 1M	57	7%	132	17%	44	6.3%	113	16%
Over 1M	189	24%	295	38%	177	26%	191	28%
Total	776	100%	773**	100%	692	100%	690**	100%

*In the '52 questionnaire the population grouping was slightly different, 100,000 to 500,000. Nine high earners (14%) in the Class of '52 were raised in cities of this size, and 39 (24%) of the remainder were raised in such cities. Eleven high earners (17%) were working in cities of 100,000 to 500,000, and 37(23%) of the remainder were doing likewise.

**1 no answer (high earner) 4 no answer (remainder)

Five hundred and seventy-five of those classed as high earners are in private practice or law firms; 104 are salaried employees working as lawyers; 6 are in education; and 14 are judges. Of the high earners in non-law occupations 17 are sole or co-proprietor (owns more than 30% interest); 39 are employees in supervisory positions (non-government); the remainder checked "other." Of the 785 respondents classified as high earners, 545 (69%) have been with no more than 2 firms or organizations compared with 406 (56%) of

remainder. One hundred and fifty-five (20%) additional high earners have been with no more than 3 compared with 149 (20%) of the remaining 731. Four hundred and three (51%) of the high earners have been with their present firm or organization for more than 10 years compared with 276 (38%) of the remaining respondents. Four hundred and eighty-eight of the 785 high earners are in private practice and are members of a partnership or corporation. Forty-eight are sole practitioners; 29 are sole practitioners in non-partnership association with other lawyers; and 9 are employees of a partnership or corporation. Four hundred and eighty-three high earners have been in private practice for 12 years or longer.

The most commonly checked specialty among both the high earners and the remainder, was corporation and business counseling (243). The next most common specialties were real property (112) and trial, general (111). Four hundred and sixty-two (80%) of the 575 high earners who are in private practice or a law firm log anywhere from 35 to over 60 hours per week in chargeable time while 215 (59%) of the 383 others in this category register so much income producing time.

When the entire 785 high earners are considered, it is found that 415 have participated in formalized courses in law or other fields since graduation. Two hundred and fifty-five have held appointive or elective office, and 433 have been active in civic affairs.

Table XIII

	High Earners (785)	Others (731)
Post-Law Education	415 (53%)	464 (63%)
Appointive or Elective Office	455 (58%)	289 (40%)
Civic Activities	433 (56%)	373 (51%)

VI. THE LAW SCHOOL PROGRAM

The questionnaire asked what of the following course offerings should be increased or decreased.

Table XIV
Suggested Increases

Subjects	First Choice	Second Choice	Third Choice
Commercial Law (including corp.)	191	124	96
Contracts & Remedies	19	33	31
Criminal Law	30	23	30
Domestic Relations	101	22	23
Estate Planning	88	135	115
Jurisprudence (including legal history)	25	36	39
*Labor Law	2	7	6
Legal Writing	211	157	122
Non-law courses in gov., finance philosophy, or other courses of possible relevance to lawyers	90	89	82
Professional Responsibility	82	92	98
Public or Private International Law	15	26	20
Procedure, Evidence & Trial Practice	280	144	101

Table XIV cont'd

<u>Subjects</u>	<u>First Choice</u>	<u>Second Choice</u>	<u>Third Choice</u>
Real Property (including oil and gas)	17	26	27
Taxation	77	94	83
Torts & Personal Injury	27	46	26
Administrative Law	29	48	65
Municipal Law	10	21	25
Constitutional Law (including Civil Rights)	19	51	44
Other	77	54	42

Suggested Decreases

Commercial Law (including corp.)	12	8	10
Contracts & Remedies	31	19	19
Criminal Law	56	35	26
Domestic Relations	93	60	43
Estate Planning	19	23	18
Jurisprudence (including legal history)	133	79	48
*Labor Law	1	4	10
Legal Writing	22	29	29
Non-law courses in gov., finance, philosophy, or other courses of possible relevance to lawyers	139	63	49
Professional Responsibility	15	43	27
Public or Private International Law	95	88	63
Procedure, Evidence & Trial Practice	26	21	12
Real Property (including gas & oil)	33	37	15
Taxation	62	10	7
Torts & Personal Injury	21	22	18
Administrative Law	10	29	28
Municipal Law	21	29	44
Constitutional Law (including Civil Rights)	15	8	16
Other	8	4	2

*Added beginning with '58 questionnaire.

In the questionnaire under a section called Postgraduate Information the question was asked, "What of your law school training is contributing most meaningfully to your present job ability?". There was also space provided for Comments. Almost all respondents took advantage of these opportunities to express themselves concerning their law school experience both favorably and unfavorably.

In answering the specific question mentioned in the above paragraph some named particular courses. Some of those frequently mentioned were Commercial Law, Administrative Law, Real Property, Civil Procedure, Contracts, Creditors' Rights, Labor Law, Antitrust Regulation, Corporation Law, Torts, Taxation, and International Law. The most frequently mentioned courses were those of the first year. Others found it difficult to single out specific courses but felt the entire curriculum had proved of value. The most common benefits mentioned other than specific courses were those of learning to analyze facts, to organize materials, basic training in legal reasoning, the Socratic method of teaching, association with certain teachers, long hours of work, habits of thoroughness

acquired, pressure of examinations, practice court, and high quality of both faculty and students. Others mentioned Case Club, Moot Court, research seminars and Law Review. Most respondents were pleased with the training they had received at the University of Michigan Law School stating that its graduates measure very well against graduates of other leading law schools.

However, not all respondents were enthusiastic about the law school's contribution to their present situation. Criticisms ranged from mild to vehement. A few answered that they did not know anything which was of benefit. Several felt that a three-year course was not adequate preparation for the practice of law, that an "internship" would be most desirable addition to law training. A good many felt there had been far too much emphasis on grades, that particularly when it came to Placement the average to poor student had been largely ignored. In reference to grades not a few felt that there was need for closer investigation into financial need because it was felt that a "C" or "D" student may well be a "C" or "D" student because he must work long hours at a job to support himself - thus limiting the time and energy he can apply to his studies. Many expressed the opinion that law school courses should put more stress on the practical side of law and less on its theoretical side - more emphasis on drafting contracts; estate tax forms, etc.; writing memoranda and briefs; more practice in research; more concrete examples rather than meaningless discussions. Some felt quite bitter about the seeming lack of interest on the part of professors as well as administrators. The need for more career counseling about opportunities in the practice of law, the lawyer in business, and the lawyer in government was stressed. A plea was made for more counseling of students with academic difficulties, and for closer association between student and professor in general. A large number favored opening up Law Review opportunities to other than just the top academic students.

V. CONCLUSION

While some may question that the law school will derive specific value from these surveys, they do stimulate thought and discussion concerning curriculum and policies. The high percentage of returned questionnaires indicates an interest on the part of the alumni in such a project.